

REPORT ON SOVIET SOLDIERS AID TO AFGHAN PEASANTS

PM141639 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 12 Mar 83 First Edition p 3

[TASS report for SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA: "At the Command of the Soldier's Heart"]

[Text] Limited Contingent of Soviet Troops in Afghanistan [no date given] -- Many good deeds have marked the stay of the limited contingent of Soviet troops in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. The soldiers constantly come to the aid of the local population.

1. Khashar in the Settlement

What is the cost of building a home? The new homes for several peasants at the Kalay-Dala [name as published] mountain settlement did not cost anything. Soviet soldiers built them without payment.

...The terrorist gang was scattered. The Afghan subunit moved on to execute its next combat task. A Soviet engineer company moved into the settlement. The order read: "Clear the area of mines." The soldiers dealt with their task more quickly than estimated. Then one of them -- Sergeant Sabit Pugmanov -- told his comrades of a wonderful custom existing from time immemorial back home in Uzbekistan. "When someone in our settlements decides to build a home, all the people come to help without being asked. This is called khashar. And people work without payment, from the goodness of their hearts."

The entire company supported the sergeant who proposed to organize such a khashar in the Afghan settlement which had suffered heavily from the bandit attack. And work started. The walls of new homes grew like in a fairy tale. In one of them smoke even started pouring from the chimney. It was the grateful hosts who had started to cook supper for all those on the building sites. Thus they celebrated the new settlement together, Soviet soldiers and Afghan peasants. In addition to the new homes, the soldiers left behind as a gift also the wonderful ancient tradition of khashar. The calamity which is too big to tackle singlehandedly retreats before joint comradely efforts.

2. Mistakes Are Not Allowed

The badge "for mine clearance" and the medal "for courage" sparkle on Private Umar Khidoyatov's uniform. They have been awarded to him for military valor and skill.

The school to which children from one of the settlements were to come was found to be mined; someone from the local population had seen the terrorists carrying ammunition there, but the swift actions of the Afghan subunit prevented the bandits from blowing the building up. The peasants asked the Soviet soldiers to help.

Company Commander Senior Lieutenant V. Ulyukin called for volunteers and the entire company stepped forward. Then the commander selected several of the most experienced soldiers. First to be chosen to reconnoiter the school was Private U. Khidoyatov.

Agonizing minutes of expectation: An explosion could occur at any moment. The sapper is not allowed to make a mistake; it would be his first and last. It cannot be said that Umar was not worried; he was quite worried. But that did not interfere with his work. Quickly and accurately he examined each square meter of the premises. "Surprises" came to light in several places. Not wasting time on defusing anything -- the comrades can deal with that later -- he only marks the location of mines with small flags.

Finally the reconnaissance is over. The bandits have set over 20 mines. Not one of them exploded.

PRC'S QIAN QICHEN ARRIVES IN TASHKENT FOR TALKS

LD161700 Moscow TASS in English 1623 GMT 16 Mar 83

[Text] Tashkent March 16 TASS -- Special representative of the government of the People's Republic of China, Deputy Foreign Minister of the PRC Qian Qichen today arrived here with a group of advisers and experts. He is staying in the USSR for the holding of Soviet-Chinese political consultations.

The Chinese representatives were met at the airport by Foreign Minister of the UZBEK Soviet Socialist Republic Bakhodir Abdurazakov, other officials.

The guests will spend in Uzbekistan four days, will familiarize themselves with life in that Soviet Central Asian Republic.

ANNIVERSARY OF SINO-SOVIET CULTURAL GROUP MARKED

OW151301 Moscow in Mandarin to China 1230 GMT 13 Mar 83

[(Vasiliyev) talk]

[Excerpts] Listeners, you will now hear a talk, "in celebration of the 47th anniversary of the founding of the Sino-Soviet cultural liaison association in Nanjing," by (Vasiliyev), activist of the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Association. He says:

After the victory of the Great October Socialist Revolution in Russia, the Chinese people's desire to understand our country became all the stronger. In the 1920's, outstanding Chinese Communists and internationalists Li Dazhao and Qu Qiubai, writer Lu Xun and other well-known political activists reported on the history of Soviet Russia to the Chinese people. The society of Russian studies, established in 1921, did a great deal of work in this area.

In the 1930's, as proposed by progressive personages in China, the Sino-Soviet cultural liaison association was established in Nanjing. The association took up the mission of the society of Russian studies. It also set up branches in Shanghai, Tianjin, Kunming, Lanzhou, Guilin and other big cities.

The Sino-Soviet cultural liaison association did a great deal of work for developing and strengthening friendly relations between the people of the Soviet Union and China.

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-- In the morning the company left the settlement. The small boys and girls, pouring out of the school, waved them a long farewell. And the [word indistinct] soldier marched off to new constructive work.

3. Shuravi Rasul Mirzakov [name as published]

The mullah in one of Afghanistan's mountain settlements delivered an unusual sermon at the Friday prayers. He praised the skill of the Soviet Shuravi -- Captains of Medical Service Dr Rasul Mirzakov -- who in a short time managed to help hundreds of local villagers....

From early morning till late at night there is a crowd at the small clay house which has been turned into a medical station. Villagers come with their entire families from the surrounding settlements; for a long time they have had neither a doctor nor medicine here and have had to cure themselves as best they could. At the villagers' request the command of one of the Soviet military units has posted Capt Rasul Mirzakov here.

The military doctor has much work. He is not just a doctor. He is also involved in agitation and propaganda work. Each of his patients inevitably asks him about the Soviet Union.

In gratitude for the medical help the villagers have repeatedly tried to give the doctor their modest gifts: dried apricots, jugs of milk, even sheep. They were very surprised that R. Mirzakov refused everything and treats them without payment. It has been a long, a very long time since anyone here did some good out of the goodness of his heart. The April evolution has changed many things, but not as quickly as may be desired; the ideals of new human relationships are being established in the mountain settlements.

At the beginning not all people treated the doctor as they treat him now. The local mullah was wary of him for quite a long time. But as it happened, his wife fell ill. His appeals to God and his prayers, naturally, brought no result. And the mullah was forced to take his wife to be seen by the Soviet doctor.

And when the woman recovered the mosque resounded to the words of an unusual sermon: The mullah preached praise not for God but for the captain of medical services.

USSR-DRA ARMED FORCES FRIENDSHIP NOTED

PM151413 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 12 Mar 83 First Edition p 2

[Report by Senior Lieutenant A. Lobastov: "Strengthening Friendship"]

[Text] The men of our subunit enjoy good relations with the personnel of the neighboring unit of the DRA Armed Forces in which officer (Tadzhedin) serves. We meet with them both on field exercises and off duty.

Our Afghan comrades only recently visited our tent camp. At a rally words of sincere gratitude were addressed to the Soviet servicemen who came to the aid of Afghanistan's working people. (Fatakh), secretary of the provincial committee of the Democratic Organization of Afghan Youth, also presented awards here to top Soviet and Afghan servicemen.

This was followed by a competition to decide the best firing detail. The details headed by Sergeant A. Gvozdkov and Lieutenant (Firuz) won.

AFGHAN GOVERNMENT FARM ESTABLISHED IN BALKH

TA162010 Moscow in Dari to Afghanistan 1700 GMT 15 Mar 83

[Text] According to BAKHTAR agency information committee the construction of a new agricultural government farm has started in one of the districts of Balkh Province [words indistinct]. According to preliminary estimates the cost of [words indistinct] will amount to 3 million afghanis. Simultaneously with the construction of the farm, a housing repair complex, a kindergarden, schools and sports grounds will be built. The experience of setting up government farms in Afghanistan has demonstrated the necessity of their establishment and the great benefit of their activity for the national economy.

FORMER COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY LEADERS ISSUE APPEAL

PM161815 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Mar 83 First Edition p 4

[Dispatch by correspondent O. Kitsenko: "Appeal to Compatriots"]

[Text] Kabul, 15 Mar -- Over 280 former leaders of counterrevolutionary gangs who have gone over to the side of the revolution and who took part in a jirga (meeting) held in the capital have sent a message to the counterrevolutionary gangs and all their compatriots in the country and beyond.

The duty of all Afghans who were duped by the traitors to the people and who left their country, the message says, is to take advantage of the DRA Revolutionary Council decree on a universal amnesty and to return home.

The motherland, the message notes, respects the honor and dignity of all compatriots and the DRA Government is prepared initially to render the necessary aid to all those who need it.

Another document -- the resolution adopted by a meeting of former leaders of counterrevolutionary gangs -- deals a resolute rebuff to slanderous propaganda against revolutionary Afghanistan.

We are sure, the document says, that the DRA's patriotic, humane policy is aimed at defending the gains of the revolution, establishing peace in the country, and preparing the ground for its successful socioeconomic development. That is why we have joined the ranks of the defenders of the April Revolution.

The authors of the resolution have come out in support of the DRA Government's proposals for a peaceful political settlement of the situation around Afghanistan and demanded an end to imperialist interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs.